

POLICE DEPARTMENT
19 Garden Street, Milford, NH 03055 (603) 249-0630
2014 Annual Report

I am pleased to present the 2014 Milford Police Department Annual Report.

The Milford Police Department is comprised of 27 sworn officer positions, 5 full time civilian positions, and 4 part time civilian positions. All of our employees are dedicated and committed to providing professional, effective and efficient police services to all citizens who reside, work, or visit the Town of Milford or the State of New Hampshire.

2014 was an exceptional year even though we did experience some personnel changes within the organization. During the year we had two officers and one civilian employee who resigned from the Police Department and accepted positions within other organizations. On behalf of our Police Department I would like to thank Captain Stephen Toom, Sergeant Sean Plumer and Sarah Whittemore for their commitment and dedication to the Town of Milford and the law enforcement profession. I wish them all success in their new positions.

It is also my honor to announce the addition of six new sworn officers and one civilian employee that were hired during 2014. Officer Luke Bailey was sworn in on May 12th. Civilian employee Shari Hall began her employment with the department on August 11th. Officer David Duquette and Officer Stephen Rush, who were already, certified Police Officers, began their employment with the department on August 18th. Officer David Lisboa, Officer William Morrow, and Officer Michael LeCure, were all sworn in on December 29th. Officer Lisboa, Officer Morrow, and Officer LeCure are currently attending the New Hampshire Police Academy.

In 2014, the following officers/employees were recognized for their accomplishments:

- Sergeant Craig Frye was promoted to Captain.
- Detective Andrew Fowle was promoted to Sergeant
- Detective Olivia Siekman was promoted to Sergeant.
- Officer Nathan Stone was promoted to Sergeant.
- Officer Eric Wales was assigned to the Detective Division.
- Nicholas Duquette completed 25 years of service with the Town of Milford.

Also in 2014, the Milford Police Department, along with the Milford School District implemented the School Resource Program. Officer Michael Dowd is the School Resource Officer for the Milford School District. Officer Dowd has been very successful in building a positive relationship between the students and the Police Department. He has also been instrumental in partnering with the faculty of each school to ensure that we are providing a safe and secure learning environment for our students and teachers.

In 2014, the Milford Police Department and the IT Department worked with the Milford Area Communications Center, Wilton Police Department and Mont Vernon Police Department to bring new advancements within the technology that we use. The departments were able to transition to “live dispatch”, which allows our officers to be more effective and efficient in their investigations and reports.

In October 2014, the Milford Police Department also launched a Facebook page, which we use to post information and pictures for the public to view. Officer Daniel Campbell, who is responsible for managing this page, has done a great job in keeping the public informed on what is occurring with our department.

The men and women of the Milford Police Department are committed to providing exceptional police service. Our employees are positive and professional, and through community policing initiatives, they are building a partnership with the community to ensure that the Town of Milford is a safe place for our citizens, visitors and businesses. Our civilian employees are very respectful and provide excellent customer service to the people that they come into contact with on a daily basis. They also provide the necessary support to our divisions to ensure that they function at the highest level.

In 2014, the Town of Milford had a decrease of 22% in crimes against persons and a decrease of 11% in crimes against property. We believe that through our community initiatives, proactive patrols, technology and partnerships with the community and businesses, along with the dedication and commitment of our officers and employees we were able to accomplish reductions in these types of crimes.

The Milford Police Department is committed to reducing crime within our town and increasing the quality of life for our citizens. Throughout 2014, the men and women of the Milford Police Department remained dedicated to this commitment and were very successful in identifying and deterring criminal activity, through community policing initiatives and partnerships.

In 2015, our department will continue to build on our partnership with the community and remain diligent in our efforts to decrease and deter criminal activity within the Town of Milford.

Statistics 2013-2014

Activity	2013	2014	Change
Total Calls	38,225	44,915	+17%
Incidents Logged	2,530	2,228	-12%
Total MV Stops	4,890	5,292	+8%
Warnings	4,513	5,017	+11%
Summonses	377	275	-27%
Criminal Arrest	477	450	-6%

Offenses Reported

Group A Crimes Against Persons	2013	2014	Change
Homicide	0	0	n/a
Kidnapping	0	0	n/a
Sex Offenses	38	21	-45%
Aggravated Assault	12	18	+50%
Simple Assault	141	98	-30%
Intimidation	85	77	-9%
Total Crimes Against Persons	276	214	-22%

Group A Crimes Against Property	2013	2014	Change
Robbery	2	0	n/a
Arson	6	2	-67%
Burglary	27	26	-4%
Theft	249	190	-24%
Vehicle Theft	9	12	+33%
Counterfeit/Forgery	17	4	-76%
Fraud	24	55	+129%
Stolen Property	18	12	-33%
Destruction of Property	147	145	-1%

Group A Crimes Against Society	2013	2014	Change
Drug/Narcotic Offenses	78	97	+24%
Pornography	6	2	-67%
Weapon Violations	9	5	-44%
Total Crimes Against Society	93	104	+12%

Total Crimes Against Property	499	446	-11%
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Group B Crimes	2013	2014	Change
All Other Offenses	344	258	-25%
Bad Checks	13	5	-62%
Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy	0	3	n/a
Disorderly Conduct	50	45	-10%
Family Offenses	11	9	-18%
Liquor Law Violations	42	31	-26%
Drunkenness	29	26	-10%
Runaways	22	23	+5%
Trespassing	87	85	-2%
DUI Arrests	46	48	+4%
Total Group B Crimes	644	533	-17%

Operations:

The Operations Bureau includes the men and women of the Patrol Division who are responsible for patrolling the Town of Milford's streets and roadways and responding to calls for service. The Patrol Division is considered the backbone of the organization and the men and women assigned to the division are the face of the agency with the responsibility of deterring crime, educating the community, and enforcing the laws and ordinances of the State of New Hampshire and the Town of Milford. Responding to calls and conducting preliminary crime investigations, traffic crash investigations, traffic enforcement/education and interacting with the public are all parts of their daily responsibilities.

In 2014, the Operations Bureau continued to build on partnering with the community to reduce criminal activity and increase the quality of life for our citizens through community policing initiatives. Sergeant Matthew Fiffield, who is responsible for our community policing programs, maintained two neighborhood watch groups throughout the year. Sergeant Fiffield was also able to partner with McDonalds and held our second Coffee with a Cop event. Again this event was very successful and citizens were able to talk with officers on any subject that they chose.

In an effort to educate the community, Sergeant Fiffield and the Milford Police Department held several drug awareness presentations throughout the year. Two of the presentations were held at the Wadleigh Library and one was held for teachers and staff from the schools in Milford.

The Officers assigned to the Operations Bureau are hard-working, dedicated individuals who are committed to providing the highest degree of police services to our community and businesses. On behalf of the Patrol Division, we look forward to serving the community in 2015.

Motor Unit:

The Milford Police Department Motor Unit utilizes two Harley Davidson FLHTP Police Motorcycles. Deployment of our Motor Unit varies depending on the availability of manpower. The unit is seasonal and generally operates from April through November. Currently the department has four officers who are certified and trained to operate these motorcycles.

The Motor Unit is used as a patrol function with a high priority placed on motor vehicle enforcement and education. Throughout 2014, the department deployed the motor units to enforce and educate drivers on traffic related issues in areas such as: high traffic zones, school zones, and construction zones. The motor units are also used to effectively patrol roadways where the department has received complaints from concerned citizens as well as for daily road patrols.

In addition to traffic related enforcement, the Motor Unit is used for special events and escorts. Some of the special events that our unit is involved with include: Pumpkin Festival, Memorial Day, Labor Day and Veterans Day Parades, and other town related functions. The unit also assists in funeral escorts and events that have occurred within the Town of Milford and the State of New Hampshire.

Motor Unit Activity	2013	2014
MV Stops	298	511
Arrests	N/A	8
Parade/Special Events	4	4
Funeral Escorts	2	2
Total Miles Patrolled	3500	2231

K-9 Unit:

Officer Jason Palmer and K-9 Oryx are assigned to the Milford Police Department K-9 Unit. Officer Palmer and Oryx continue to do an exceptional job and work well as a team. In 2014 the K-9 Unit logged approximately 380 hours of training along with working patrol shifts and special assignments. Currently our K-9 Unit trains at the New Hampshire Canine Academy under the guidelines of the United States Canine Association through the Working Dog Foundation.

Our K-9 Unit is very involved with community related events. Throughout 2014, Officer Palmer and K-9 Oryx were involved in public demonstrations, school related events and community policing initiatives. These events have educated our citizens on our K-9 program and have fostered a positive relationship between the unit and the community.

The Milford Police Department K-9 Unit continues to be an important resource for our organization and the surrounding area departments. Through mutual aid, our K-9 Unit has assisted other departments and communities on calls, investigations, and community events.

K-9 unit Activity	2013	2014
Building Searches	50	52
Security/ Search Warrant	65	80
Field Searches	2	4
Public Demonstration	13	8
Mutual Aid/ Assist other	12	12

Mountain Bike Unit:

The Milford Police Department uses the Police Mountain Bike Unit as part of its Community Policing initiative. Currently, our department has seven officers who are certified and trained to ride the two Fuji Mountain bicycles that the department has. Having officers on bicycles allows them to get to some calls and locations quicker, and it also makes our officers more approachable than the traditional police officer in a marked patrol vehicle.

Deployment of our Mountain Bike Unit varies depending on the availability of manpower. This unit is seasonal and generally operates from April through November. When deployed, our Mountain Bike Officers can be seen on daily patrols throughout the town roadways, parking lots, neighborhoods and trails. These patrols often place our officers in the community where they are most available to the public. Officers are then able to work side by side with the people

within our community to promote a positive working relationship and reduce crime related activity.

In addition to the daily patrols, officers assigned to this unit are also involved in community events and special assignments, to include: July 4th events, parades, 5K runs and Pumpkin Festival, along with directed patrols and surveillances.

Mountain Bike Unit Activity	2013	2014
Arrests	4	3
Traffic Stops	16	23
Pedestrian Contacts	1630	1200
Hours Ridden	118	100
Business Checks	93	45
Area Checks	133	106

Support:

The function of the Support Bureau is to provide investigative and administrative support to the police department and community. Responsibilities of this bureau include Investigations, Prosecution, Training, School Resource and Juvenile Officers, civilian employees, and the hiring of new employees.

In 2014, the Support Bureau experienced several changes throughout the year. Detective Andrew Fowle was promoted to Sergeant and was assigned to supervise the Detective Division. Detective Olivia Siekman was also promoted to Sergeant and was assigned to the Patrol Division. Officer Eric Wales was selected to fill the open detective position, and Officer Michael Dowd was selected as the department's new School Resource Officer. As the promotions and reassignments occurred, these officers and supervisors were able to be very successful in transitioning into their new positions.

The officers and staff that are assigned to the Support Bureau are hard-working dedicated individuals who are committed to ensuring that our department provides the highest degree of police services to our community. On behalf of the Support Bureau, we look forward to serving the community in 2015.

Detective Division:

Sergeant Andrew Fowle supervises the Detective Division, which is responsible for investigating serious cases, to include, drug related investigations, felonies, misdemeanors requiring extensive investigative follow-ups, and all serious non-criminal investigations. In addition to these investigations, detectives are also involved with the department's hiring process. In 2014, detectives completed 8 pre-employment background investigations, which enabled our department to hire 4 officers and one civilian employee. Our department is now fully staffed.

The Detective Division continued to work closely with surrounding Police Departments, DEA and the NH Drug Task Force throughout the year in an effort to reduce drug and criminal activity in

our area. Their efforts were very successful and during one investigation detectives were able to seize 23 grams of heroin and a substantial amount of currency. In support of the department's efforts to combat the illegal use of prescription drugs, detectives also facilitated the department's participation with 2 National Drug Take Back days.

Detective's Felonies & Serious Investigations	2013	2014
Cases Assigned	147	121
Cases Closed (Overall)	104	105
Cases Closed by Arrest/Indictment	15	15
Cases Suspended	8	3
Cases Still Open	20	11
Closure Rate	71%	86%
Does not include all calls, reports, activities		

School Resource Officer:

In 2014, the Milford Police Department and the Milford School District worked together and implemented the School Resource Program. Officer Michael Dowd was selected to take on this responsibility and he has done an exceptional job in building a positive relationship between the Milford Police Department and the students and faculty of the area schools. Officer Dowd takes great pride in working with the students, assisting and mentoring them throughout the school year. Officer Dowd also is involved in all the police related matters within the Milford School District.

School Resource Officer	2013	2014
Cases Assigned	N/A	93
Cases Closed (Overall)	N/A	44
Cases Closed by Arrest	N/A	3
Cases Suspended	N/A	3
Cases Still Open	N/A	3
Does not include all calls, reports, activities		

Juvenile Officer:

Our Juvenile Police Officer, Dan Campbell, has continued his efforts in building a working relationship with the children within our community. Officer Campbell is often seen at the schools, assisting staff and working closely with the students. Officer Campbell is responsible for investigating juvenile related issues, and handles all court cases involving juveniles. He also reviews each juvenile court case to determine whether or not the case would be best addressed in the Milford Area Diversion Program.

Juvenile Officer	2013	2014
Total Cases Involving Juveniles	458	363
Assault Related	69	37
Thefts-Burglaries	41	29
Vandalism	25	30
Alcohol Related	10	13
Drug Violations	15	13
Does not include all calls, reports, activities		

Prosecutor:

Attorney Michael McCall continues to serve as our department's prosecutor. Attorney McCall is very knowledgeable in his field and also assists the NH Police Standards and Training Council with their ongoing training for police prosecutors. In addition to assisting the academy, Attorney McCall has assisted in training our officers in 2014, and he will continue to provide ongoing in service training throughout the coming year. Attorney McCall's other responsibilities include, monitoring new case law and legislative updates to ensure that our officers are provided with timely information. He also handles all Milford adult court cases, reviews all felony cases, and presents felony cases before the Hillsborough County Grand Jury.

Prosecution Activity	2013	2014
Arrests	477	448
OT Hours	456	295
Scheduled Arraignments	477	467
Trials, PC Hearings, Misc. Hearings	1,263	1,208
Juvenile Petitions Filed	60	38
Total for Milford District Court	112	85
Milford's % of Petitions Filed in MDC	53%	45%
MPD Diversion Cases Brought Forward	12	2
Total Diversion Cases in Milford District Court	26	15
MPD's % of Diversion Cases Brought Forward	46%	13%

Crossing Guards:

Our department takes great pride in knowing we have two exceptional crossing guards that ensure the safety of our children as they arrive and leave the schools within the town. Julie Desmarais and Jodi Jensen, both long time crossing guards for our town, have a great relationship with our community's children. These two employees stand outside, in all types of weather, each school day displaying a positive attitude and are often encouraging the children and parents to have a great day.

Training:

The Support Bureau is responsible for ensuring that all of our officers receive on-going training. The bureau provides multiple types of training to our officers, including in house training where our instructors train the officers, or we will bring in professionals from outside of our department to assist in the training. We also provide practical training using the department's certified instructors, or we will send officers out to specialized training. When an officer receives outside specialized training, they are often given the opportunity to share that training with other officers through roll call trainings and department wide training sessions.

Closing Remark:

In closing, I would like to thank the men and women of the Milford Police Department for their hard work and dedication that they have displayed on a daily basis. Throughout this year, our department has experienced personnel changes, which were dealt with in a very positive and professional manner. All of our officers and civilian personnel have been able to adjust to the changes and provide the highest level of police services to our community. It is an honor for me to work with each one of you that represent the Milford Police Department and the Town of Milford.

I would also like to thank the citizens and business community for their continued support as we work together to improve the quality of life for our citizens and to provide a safe and secure community.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Viola
Chief of Police